

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) An apparatus for supporting one or more articles of various sizes and shapes on a vehicle surface during transport with a mechanized vehicle, the apparatus comprising:
 - one or more straps;
 - a planar platform having a body and cooperating with said one or more straps for holding the one or more articles against the platform, the platform further comprising:
 - a planar top surface for engaging the one or more articles being held by the one or more straps;
 - a planar bottom surface parallel to the top surface for engaging the vehicle surface;
 - a plurality of bearing members arranged in succession to enable adjustment of the one or more straps;
 - a plurality of slots separating said bearing members; and
 - at least one recess, aligned with said plurality of slots and said bearing members, recessing from the bottom surface into the body of the platform, for accepting said one or more straps through at least two of said slots for engaging the straps against the bearing members and for preventing the straps from engaging the vehicle surface.
2. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the one or more straps are permanently fastened to the platform.
3. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the one or more straps are removable from the platform.
4. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the one or more straps vary in width and length.
5. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein one or more handles are formed into said body of the platform.
6. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein one or more handles are attached to said body of the platform.

7. (canceled)
8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the platform top surface is further comprised of a slip resistant material.
9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the platform bottom surface is further comprised of a slip resistant material.